

S. RES. 289

Whereas the Vietnam War was fought in Vietnam from 1961 to 1975, and involved North Vietnam and the Viet Cong in conflict with the United States and South Vietnam;

Whereas the United States became involved in Vietnam because policy-makers in the United States believed that if South Vietnam fell to a Communist government that Communism would spread throughout the rest of Southeast Asia;

Whereas members of the United States Armed Forces began serving in an advisory role to the South Vietnamese in 1961;

Whereas as a result of the Gulf of Tonkin incidents on August 2 and 4, 1964, Congress overwhelmingly passed the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution (Public Law 88-408), on August 7, 1964, which effectively handed over war-making powers to President Johnson until such time as "peace and security" had returned to Vietnam;

Whereas, in 1965, United States Armed Forces ground combat units arrived in Vietnam;

Whereas, by the end of 1965, there were 80,000 United States troops in Vietnam, and by 1969 a peak of approximately 543,000 troops was reached;

Whereas, on January 27, 1973, the Treaty of Paris was signed, which required the release of all United States prisoners of war held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all United States Armed Forces from South Vietnam;

Whereas, on March 30, 1973, the United States Armed Forces completed the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam;

Whereas more than 58,000 members of the United States Armed Forces lost their lives in Vietnam and more than 300,000 members of the Armed Forces were wounded;

Whereas, in 1982, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated in the District of Columbia to commemorate those members of the United States Armed Forces who died or were declared missing in action in Vietnam;

Whereas the Vietnam War was an extremely divisive issue among the people of the United States;

Whereas members of the United States Armed Forces who served bravely and faithfully for the United States during the Vietnam War were caught upon their return home in the crossfire of public debate about the involvement of the United States in the Vietnam War;

Whereas the establishment of a "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" would be an appropriate way to honor those members of the United States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam during the Vietnam War; and

Whereas March 30 would be an appropriate day to establish as "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that there should be established a "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" to honor those members of the United States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam.

## DISCHARGE AND REFERRAL—H.R. 767

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 767, and that the bill be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 3495 and H.R. 3685

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk. I ask for their first readings en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3495) to establish a National Commission on Children and Disasters, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 3685) to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Mr. DURBIN. I now ask for their second reading en bloc, and I object to my own request en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

## ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2007, AND TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. Friday, November 9; that on Friday, the Senate meet in pro forma session only with no business conducted; that at the close of the pro forma session the Senate then stand adjourned until 10 a.m., Tuesday, November 13; that on Tuesday, following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour deemed expired, the time of the two leaders reserved for their use later in the day; that the Senate then proceed to executive session to consider the nomination of Robert M. Dow, Jr., to be a U.S. district judge; that the nomination be debated until 10:10 a.m., with the time equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees; that at 10:10 a.m., the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the nomination; that upon confirmation, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table and the

President immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then return to legislative session and be in a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each and the time equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees, with the Republicans controlling the first portion and the majority controlling the final portion; provided further that Senator DORGAN control up to 30 minutes of the majority's time; that at 12:30 p.m., the Senate stand in recess until 2:15 p.m. for the respective party conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:39 p.m., adjourned until Friday, November 9, 2007, at 10 a.m.

## NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PATRICIA M. HASLACH, OF OREGON, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HER TENURE OF SERVICE AS UNITED STATES SENIOR COORDINATOR FOR THE ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC) FORUM.

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MARY BETH LONG, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, VICE PETER W. RODMAN, RESIGNED.

### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM L. SHELTON, 0000

## CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate: Thursday, November 8, 2007:

### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MICHAEL B. MUKASEY, OF NEW YORK, TO BE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

THE ABOVE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.